This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

A CUP OF BLESSING.

Digitized by Google

Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house.—Ps. lxxxiv. 4.

Blessed is the man whose strength is in Thee.—Ps. lxxxiv. 5.

Thou who slumberest not nor sleepest,
Blest are they Thou kindly keepest.

J. H.

Only be Thou at hand to bless.

KEBLE.

There are stars behind the Cross.

W. T. EDWARDS.

Art thou weary, art thou languid,
Art thou sore distressed?
'Come to Me'—saith One—' and coming,
Be at rest!'

NEAL, From the Greek.

Digitized by Google

A

Cup of Blessing

FOR

Every Day in the Year.

Being a Birthday Book of Cheering and Consolatory Texts, selected from Scripture and other Sources,

By C. B.

'In the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and He poureth out the same.'
Ps. lxxv. 8.

EDINBURGH:
WILLIAM P. NIMMO & CO.
1883.

1410. g. 1.
Digitized by Google

Morrison and Gibb, Edinburgh,
Printers to Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

BODLEIAN LIBRARY
19 JAN 84
OXFORD.

Digitized by Google

PREFACE.

THE title of this little book—*A Cup of Blessing*—gives a distinct idea of the character of the compilation. There are many Birthday Text Books before the world, and it almost seems unnecessary to add another to the already long list; but the complaint has often been made that there are none in which a cheering or consolatory text, or sentiment for each and every day in the year can be found; it was to supply this want that the present little volume was undertaken, with the heartfelt hope that it would indeed prove a Cup of Blessing to many. It is but too often that wearied souls think they are unnoticed by the Great Consoler, that their prayers and cries return again to earth unanswered, and that life must be devoid of all blessing. It is not so. There is One in the heavens that hears the faintest sigh, and notes each thrill of pain. No one is forgotten, for is not God infinite! And if He is to be our all *hereafter*, will He not also be the same *here?* How true are Mrs. Browning's words:—

'Crying—"Where are ye, O my loved and loving?" I know a voice would sound, "Daughter, I am. Can I suffice for Heaven, and not for earth?"'

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 1.

This coming year will show you many things, but the most beautiful of all will be the love of God.

LOBSTEIN.

God is Love, saith the Evangel;
And our world of woe and sin
Is made light and happy only,
When a love is shining in.

JANUARY 2.

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.—Ps. xxxvii. 5.

With grateful hearts the past we own;
The future, all to us unknown,
We to Thy guardian care commit,
Content with what Thou deemest fit.

JANUARY 3.

No man dare ask of God so much as He is ready and willing to give.—LUTHER.

Largely Thou givest, gracious Lord,
Largely Thy gifts should be restored;
Freely Thou givest, and Thy word
Is 'Freely give.'
He only who forgets to hoard
Has learned to live.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 4.

Give yourself to God, without reserve, and then fear nothing.—FENELON.

Let the sweet hope that Thou art mine,
My path of life attend;
Thy presence through my journey shine,
And crown my journey's end.

JANUARY 5.

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.—MATT. xi. 28.

Lord, I come to Thee for rest;
Take possession of my breast,
There Thy blood-bought right maintain,
And without a rival reign.

JANUARY 6.

If I want real pleasure, I seek the happiness that comes from God, for that alone is lasting.

MADAME SWETCHINE.

My God, the spring of all my joys,
The life of my delights,
The glory of my brightest days,
And comfort of my nights.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 7.

He shall enter into peace; they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness.

ISA. lvii. 2.

Rest remaineth; hush that sigh!
Mourning pilgrim, rest is nigh!
Yet a season, bright and blest,
Thou shalt enter on thy rest.

JANUARY 8.

The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

PS. xxxiv. 18.

Knock, He knows the sinner's cry;
Weep, He loves the mourner's tears;
Watch, for saving grace is nigh;
Wait, till heavenly grace appears.

JANUARY 9.

A tear dropped in the silence of a sick chamber, often rings in heaven with a sound which belongs not to earthly trumpet or bells.—WARD BEECHER.

Tears are the heirloom of our race,
From sire to son profusely given;
Bright dew-drops on the mourner's face,—
Bright only in the light of heaven.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 10.

I keep wondering every day what new loving-kindness is coming next! It is such a glorious life!

FRANCES R. HAVERGAL.

O Lord, how happy is the time
When in Thy love I rest!
When from my weariness I climb
Even to Thy tender breast.

JANUARY 11.

Let us not be weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.—GAL. vi. 9.

Go, labour on; thy hands are weak,
Thy knees are faint, thy soul cast down;
Yet falter not,—the prize is near,
The throne, the kingdom, and the crown.

JANUARY 12.

The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him; and He will show them His covenant.—PS. XXV. 14.

Lord! when Thy way is in the sea,
And strange to mortal sense,
I love Thee in the mystery,
I trust Thy providence.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 13.

It is a very small thing to try to please God, where our duties are pleasant to us.—St. Francis de Sales.

Father, I know that all my life
  Is portioned out for me,
And the changes that will surely come,
  I do not fear to see;
But I ask Thee for a present mind,
  Intent on pleasing Thee.

JANUARY 14.

The road to perfection demands only those who are ever pressing onwards.—St. Augustine.

Pressing onwards as we can,
Still to this our hearts must tend;
Where our earliest hopes began,
There our last aspirings end.

JANUARY 15.

The Lord will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.—Ps. ix. 9.

Then shall the Lord a refuge prove
  For all the poor oppressed;
To save the people of His love,
  And give the weary rest.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 16.

My people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting-places.

ISA. xxxii. 18.

Earth's pilgrim still his loins must gird
To seek a lot more blest;
And this must be his onward word—
'In Heaven alone is rest!'

JANUARY 17.

Love the will of God—love it alone, and thus make a heaven upon earth.—FENELON.

I worship Thee, sweet Will of God,
And all Thy ways adore;
And every day I live, I seem
To love Thee more and more.

JANUARY 18.

A humble mind is contented with anything, provided that God is served.—ST. FRANCIS DE SALES.

Humble we must be if to Heaven we go;
High is the roof there, but the gate is low;
Whene'er thou speak'st, look with a lowly eye—
Grace is increased by humility.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 19.

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him.—Ps. ciii. 13.

Thy children shall not faint nor fear,
Sustained by this delightful thought,
Since Thou, their God, art everywhere,
They cannot be where Thou art not.

JANUARY 20.

Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God!—1 JOHN iii. 1.

We would no longer lie
Like slaves beneath the throne;
My faith shall Abba, Father, cry,
And Thou the kindred own.

JANUARY 21.

Even so, Father; for so it seemeth good in Thy sight.—MATT. xi. 26.

And if it seemeth good to Thee, my Father,
Shall it seem aught but good to me?
Thy will be done! Thou knowest I would rather
Leave all to Thee.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 22.

As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you.—ISA. lxvi. 13.

Can a fond mother from herself depart?
Can she forget the darling of her heart?—
The little darling whom she bore and bred,
Nursed on her knee, and at her bosom fed.

JANUARY 23.

How sweet it is to live always near those who love us! And sweeter still to love them and minister to their love.—FROM THE FRENCH.

I must love on, O God!
This bosom must love on! Thy breath
Touch and make pure the flame that knows not death,
Bearing it up to Heaven, love's own abode.

JANUARY 24.

If we could cast the gift of a lovely thought into the heart of a friend, that would be giving as the angels.
GEORGE MACDONALD.

Fear oftentimes restraineth words,
But makes not thoughts to cease;
One thought imparted to a friend
May give the soul sweet peace.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 25.

He brought me to the banqueting-house, and his banner over me was love.—SONG OF SOLOMON ii. 3.

How rich are thy provisions, Lord!
Thy table furnished from above;
The fruits of life o'erspread the board,
The cup o'erflows with heavenly love.

JANUARY 26.

Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart. Wait, I say, on the Lord.—Ps. xxvii. 14.

While life her throng of care reveals,
And weakness o'er my spirit steals,—
Grateful I hear the kind decree,
That 'as my day, my strength shall be.'

JANUARY 27.

I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee.—ACTS xviii. 10.

When harassed by ten thousand foes,
Our helplessness we feel;
O give the weary soul repose,
The wounded spirit heal.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 28.

When the shore is gained, who will heed the toil and the storm?—ST. FRANCIS DE SALES.

Safe home, safe home in port!
  Rent cordage, shattered deck,
Torn sails, provisions short,
  And only not a wreck;
But oh, the joy upon the shore
To tell our voyage perils o'er!

JANUARY 29.

We receive consolation in this world for the very purpose of preparing us against trouble to come.

DR. NEWMAN.

Do you know God's saints are chosen
  Oftentimes to suffer sore,
That the crown may be more golden
  When the suffering is o'er?

JANUARY 30.

It is Jesus who can make all your happiest times happier still, if you only trust Him.

FRANCES R. HAVERGAL.

How long the passions make their flight
At empty shadows of delight!
No more in paths of error stray,
The Lord, thy Jesus, is the way,
The Spring of happiness, and where
Should man seek happiness, but there?

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JANUARY 31.

Thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice. Thou visitest the earth.

Ps. lxv. 8, 9.

Evening and morning,
Sunset and dawning,
Wealth, peace, and gladness,
Comfort in sadness.
These are Thy works: all the glory be Thine.

FEBRUARY 1.

My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.—Ex. xxxiii. 14.

Lead us to God, our final rest,
In His enjoyment to be blest;
Lead us to heaven, the seat of bliss,
Where pleasure in perfection is.

FEBRUARY 2.

All things work together for good to them that love God.—Rom. viii. 28.

O thou who mournest on this way,
With longings for the close of day;
He walks with thee, that angel kind,
And gently whispers, 'Be resigned;'
Bear up, bear on, the end shall tell
The dear Lord ordereth all things well!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEBRUARY 3.

Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness; He is gracious and full of compassion.

Ps. cxii. 4.

Through seas and storms of deep distress,
We sail by faith, and not by sight;
Faith guides us in the wilderness,
Through all the briers and the night

FEBRUARY 4.

Let us go ever upwards, unwearyingly upwards, towards the heavenly vision.—ST. FRANCIS DE SALES.

Towards the radiant mark I press,
Along a weary road;
And strive to scorn each false caress
That tempts my soul from God.

FEBRUARY 5.

By prayers only can we obtain our desire; the hand that knocks will receive the gifts.—DUGUET.

Oh prayer! thou mine of things unknown,
Who can be poor possessing thee?
Thou wert a fount of joy alone,
Better than worlds of gold could be.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEBRUARY 6.

I will both lay me down in peace and sleep, for Thou makest me dwell in safety.—Ps. iv. 8.

Sleep sweetly, tender heart, in peace!
  Sleep, holy spirit, blessed soul,
While the stars burn, the moons increase,
  And the great ages onward roll.

FEBRUARY 7.

Let them that love Him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might.—JUDG. v. 31.

When creatures had no real light
  Inherent in them, Thou didst make the sun
Impart a lustre, and allow them bright,
  And in this, show what Christ hath done.

FEBRUARY 8.

Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.—Ps. xxx. 5.

Christ had His joys—and so hath he
  Who feels His spirit in his heart;
Who yields, O God, his all to Thee,
  And loves Thy name for what Thou art.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEBRUARY 9.

The Cross of Christ is not so evil as they call it; it is sweet, light, comfortable.—RUTHERFORD.

How blest the man, how fully so,
As far as man is blest below,
Who, taking up his cross, essays
To follow Jesus all his days!

FEBRUARY 10.

I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord.—JER. XXX. 17.

Health, brightest visitant from heaven,
  Grant me with thee to rest!
For the short time by nature given,
  Be thou my constant guest.

FEBRUARY 11.

This valley of humiliation—behold how green it is! also how beautiful with lilies!—BUNYAN.

He that is down need fear no fall;
  He that is low no pride:
He that is humble ever shall
  Have God to be his guide.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEBRUARY 12.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.—Ps. xxiii. 6.

Thus far my God hath led me on,
And made His truth and mercy known;
My hopes and fears alternate rise,
And comforts mingle with my sighs.

FEBRUARY 13.

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.—JOHN viii. 22.

In a service which Thy will appoints
There are no bonds for me;
For my inmost heart is taught 'the truth,'
That makes Thy children 'free.'

FEBRUARY 14.

The Lord is my portion, saith my soul, therefore will I hope in Him. The Lord is good unto them that wait for Him.—LAM. iii. 24, 25.

Upon her arm a silver anchor lay,
Whereon she leaned ever, as befell;
And ever up to heaven as she did pray,
Her stedfast eyes were bent, nor swerved otherway.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEBRUARY 15.

Each Pisgah of labour has its glimpse of the promised land.—RANDOM TRUTHS.

Toil on, and in thy toil rejoice;
For toil comes rest, for exile home;
Soon shalt thou hear the Bridegroom's voice,
The midnight peal, 'Behold, I come!'

FEBRUARY 16.

This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you.—JOHN XV. 12.

Love never fails: though knowledge cease,
Though prophecies decay,
Love, Christian love, shall still increase,
Shall still extend her sway.

FEBRUARY 17.

Be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God hath forgiven you.

EPH. IV. 32.

Forgive thy foe;—nor that alone,
His evil deed with good repay;
Fill those with joy who leave thee none,
And kiss the hand upraised to slay.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEBRUARY 18.

The Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces. . . . For the Lord hath spoken it.—ISA. XXV. 8.

In that bright world no tears are seen,
For God hath wiped all tears away;
Earth's last deep groan of anguish keen
Ne'er mingles with redemption's lay.

FEBRUARY 19.

Let her also lift up her voice in praise. A strong medicine lies therein.—LUTHER.

My fears of danger, while I breathe,
My dread of troubles here beneath,
My sense of sorrow for my sin,
To springing comfort change within;
Change all my sad complaints for ease
To cheerful notes of glorious praise.

FEBRUARY 20.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man.—1 COR. X. 13.

The Tempter to my soul hath said,
'There is no help in God for thee:'
Lord, lift Thou up Thy servant's head,
My glory, shield, and solace be.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEBRUARY 21.

What is resignation? Placing God between ourselves and our trouble.—MADAME SWETCHINE.

Give me the care,
By thankful patience to prevent despair,
Fit me to bear whate'er Thou shalt assign;
I kiss the rod, because the rod is Thine.

FEBRUARY 22.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a good heritage.—Ps. xvi. 6.

With longing eyes Thy creatures wait
On Thee for daily food;
Thy liberal hand provides their meat,
And fills their mouths with good.

FEBRUARY 23.

I love them that love me, and those that seek me early shall find me.—PROV. viii. 17.

In Thy own appointed way,
Now we seek Thee, here we stay;
Lord, from hence we would not go,
Till a blessing Thou bestow.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEBRUARY 24.

If we would know God, we must resolve to give ourselves to Him; for a life without God is the life of an orphan.—LOBSTEIN.

To Thee, O God, I humbly bow,
My life, my all, I give to Thee;
In this vast world, O let me show
How sweet Thy presence is to me.

FEBRUARY 25.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.—MATT. v. 7.

Though waves and storms go o'er my head,
Though strength, and health, and friends be gone,
Though joys be withered all and dead,
Though every comfort be withdrawn,
On this my steadfast soul relies—
Father, Thy mercy never dies.

FEBRUARY 26.

My beloved is mine, and I am his; he feedeth among the lilies.—SONG OF SOLOMON ii. 16.

Love me, beloved; Hades and death
Shall vanish away like a frosty breath;
These hands that are at home in thine,
Shall clasp me again, if thou still art mine.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

FEBRUARY 27.

He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.—Ps. cii. 17.

Prayer makes the darkened cloud withdraw,
Prayer climbs the ladder Jacob saw,
Gives exercise to faith and love,
Brings every blessing from above.

FEBRUARY 28.

Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days.—Eccles. xi. 1.

Gentle reader, see in me
An emblem of true charity;
That while my bounty I bestow,
I'm neither heard nor seen to flow;
And I have fresh supplies from heaven,
For every cup of water given.

FEBRUARY 29.

God is the summit of man's happiness, and religion is the way to it.—Feltham.

'Tis Thine alone to calm the pious breast,
With silent confidence and holy rest;
From Thee, Great God! we spring—to Thee we tend,
Path, Motive, Guide, Original, and End.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 1.

Nothing belonging to Christ's kingdom tells much upon the world which has not in it the element of sacrifice.—DORA GREENWELL.

Dear Jesus! I would ever be
A Sacrifice unto Thy love,
Denying here, for others' good,
To dwell at last with Thee above.

MARCH 2.

Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.
MATT. xviii. 20.

Where two or three with sweet accord,
Obedient to their sovereign Lord,
Meet to recount His acts of grace,
And offer solemn prayer and praise;
There, says the Saviour, will I be,
Amid that little company.

MARCH 3.

It shall come to pass that at evening time it shall be light.—ZECH. xiv. 7.

Walk in the light! and thou shalt own
Thy darkness passed away,
Because that light hath on thee shone,
In which is perfect day.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 4.

When weeping we draw nigh to God, we show our trust in Him.—LOBSTEIN.

Raise it to Heaven when thine eye fills with tears,
For only in a watery sky appears
The bow of light; and from th' invisible skies
Hope's glory shines not, save through weeping eyes.

MARCH 5.

A bruised reed shall He not break, and the smoking flax shall He not quench.—ISA. xlii. 3.

The broken heart in sacrifice,
Alone may Thine acceptance meet;
My heart, O God, do not despise,
Broken and contrite at Thy feet.

MARCH 6.

Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.—JOHN xiv. 27.

Come, be of good cheer, brother, be of good cheer;
If the Master be with us, 'tis good to be here;
No matter what clouds overshadow the sky,
We are safe, we are safe, if the Master be nigh.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 7.

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.—2 TIM. ii. 3.

Now must we fight if we would reign;
Increase our courage, Lord;
We'll bear the toil, endure the pain,
Supported by Thy word.

MARCH 8.

If thou seekest Jesus in all things, thou shalt surely find Jesus. THOMAS À KEMPIS.

We'll seek Thy face at early dawn,
When clouds and darkness veil the sky
Upon the rising mists of morn,
Confess our sorrows in a sigh;
And the first beam that shines above
Shall glow with Thy forgiving love.

MARCH 9.

That we may know the Intercessor above, there is no way so excellent as to get acquainted with Jesus.
DR. JAMES HAMILTON.

When, weary in the Christian race,
Far off appears my resting-place,
And fainting I mistrust Thy grace,
Then, Saviour, plead for me.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 10.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.—Ps. xxiii. 2.

The Lord is my Shepherd, no want shall I know,
I feed in green pastures, safe-folded I rest;
He leadeth my soul where the still waters flow,
Restores me when wandering, redeems when oppresst.

MARCH 11.

Ye are the temples of God. Be cheerful while you help your Master Builder to perfect His temple.

WARD BEECHER.

Oh, brother! while the Master toils
To rear a temple, pure and fair,
With cheerful mien and holy zeal,
Lend thine own hands the work to share.

MARCH 12.

Fear not; I am thy shield and thine exceeding great reward.—GEN. xv. 1.

Now let the feeble all be strong,
And make Jehovah's arm their song:
His shield is spread o'er every saint;
And thus supported, who shall faint?

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 13.

A good man doth both delight in doing good, and hath an abundant reward in the doing it.—OWEN.

Man is dear to man; the poorest poor
Long for some moments in a weary life,
When they can know and feel that they have been,
Themselves, the fathers and the dealers-out
Of some small blessing.

MARCH 14.

Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish Thou the work of our hands.

Ps. xc. 17.

If so much loveliness is sent
To grace our earthly home,
How beautiful—how beautiful
Will be the world to come!

MARCH 15.

They that know Thy name will put their trust in Thee.—Ps. ix. 10.

For now in truth I find
My Father all His promises hath kept;
He comforts those who here in sadness wept.
Eyes to the blind
Thou art, O God! Earth I no longer see,
Yet trustfully my spirit looks to Thee.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 16.

Men pass away, but the truth of the Lord remaineth for ever.—THOMAS À KEMPIS.

But Thou art good, incarnate Lord!
  Who didst vouchsafe for man to die;
Thy smile is sure, Thy plighted word
  No change can falsify.

MARCH 17.

Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of Thy countenance.—Ps. lxxxix. 15.

Eternal Light! Eternal Light!
  How pure the soul must be
To stand beneath Thy searching sight,
And shrink not; but with calm delight
  To live, and look on Thee!

MARCH 18.

There are depths of love in Christ; therefore dig deep, and labour, and take pains for Him.

RUTHERFORD.

Dear unseen Saviour, can it be,
That thus Thy love extends to me?
Then teach me how my life may prove
Worthy the glory of Thy love;
And give me strength to love Thee still.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 19.

My God shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory by Jesus Christ.—PHIL. iv. 19.

From Thee my daily bread and health,
Each comfort, all my spirit's wealth,
Have been derived :—my sins alone,
And errings, I can call mine own.

MARCH 20.

The servant of Christ should be insensible to outward attractions.—DUGUET.

Subdue thy passions, O my soul,
  Maintain the fight, thy work pursue ;
Daily thy rising sins control,
  And be thy victories ever new.

MARCH 21.

God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able ; but with the temptation also make a way to escape.—1 COR. x. 13.

He who sends temptation, giveth
Strength to meet and overcome the foe,
If but to Him we pray,
And in Him put our trust.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 22.

A sweet smile of hope and love follows every tear, and tribulation itself is turned into blessing.

MARIA HARE.

Blessed be Thy name for ever,
Thou of life the guard and giver;
Thou canst guard the creatures sleeping,
Heal the heart long broke with weeping.

MARCH 23.

The desire of the righteous shall be granted. . . . The hope of the righteous shall be gladness.

PROV. x. 24, 28.

While Thy glorious praise is sung,
Touch my lips, unloose my tongue,
That my joyful soul may bless
Thee, the Lord, my righteousness.

MARCH 24.

The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by Him; and the Lord will cover him all the day long.

DEUT. xxxiii. 12.

He who thy soul in safety keeps,
Shall drive destruction hence;
The Lord thy keeper never sleeps;
The Lord is thy defence.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 25.

When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid; yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet.

PROV. iii. 24.

Slumber till the dawn of day
Brings its troubles with its ray!
Sleep without or fear or fright!
Our Father wakes! Good-night!

MARCH 26.

There is nothing so powerful as example. We put others straight by walking straight ourselves.

MADAME SWETCHINE.

Imitate the Great Example,
  Humbly, as a Christian should,
Ever, like the bright ensample,
  Speaking well and doing good.

MARCH 27.

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord.

Ps. cxxi. 1, 2.

By day, by night, at home, abroad,
Still are we guarded by our God;
By His incessant bounty fed,
By His unerring counsel led.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 28.

If you would learn self-mastery, begin by yielding yourself to the one Great Master.—LOBSTEIN.

He always wins who sides with God,
To him no chance is lost;
God's will is sweetest to him when
It triumphs at his cost.

MARCH 29.

I think there are lighthouses all along our lives, and God knows when it is time to light the lamps.

SAXE HOLM.

So, trusting in Thy love, I tread
The narrow path of duty on;
What though some cherished joys are fled!
What though some flattering dreams are gone!
Thy light still shines ahead!

MARCH 30.

I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.

HOS. xiv. 5.

Dear Saviour! hear us when we call,
To wrestling prayer an answer give;
Pour down Thy dew upon us all,
That all may feel, and all may live.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MARCH 31.

I will give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of My hand.—JOHN x. 28.

Nor death nor hell shall e'er remove
His chosen from His breast;
In the dear bosom of His love
They must for ever rest.

APRIL 1.

God is all love, it is He who made everything, and He loves everything that He has made.

H. BROOKE.

His thoughts are love, and Jesus is
The living voice they find;
His love lights up the vast abyss
Of the eternal mind.

APRIL 2.

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and God of all comfort.

2 COR. i. 3.

When least we hope, our prayer is heard,
The judgment is averted,
And comes the comfort of Thy word
When most we seem deserted.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 3.

Lord! if mercy be so free, I will never be poor, but I will meditate to know it.—J. B. OWEN.

But oh! Thy softer titles let me claim,
And plead my cause by mercy's gentle name—
Mercy, that wipes the penitential tear,
And dissipates the horrors of despair.

APRIL 4.

Our light afflictions, which are but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.—2 COR. iv. 17.

Come then, affliction, if my Father bids,
And be my frowning friend; a friend that frowns
Is better than a smiling enemy.

APRIL 5.

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.
JOHN XV. 7.

Abide with me from morn till eve,
For without Thee I cannot live;
Abide with me when night is nigh,
For without Thee I dare not die.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 6.

Give thanks that there is a future, and that it is in the wise hands of our Father.—CHAS. MESSENT.

Behold! we know not anything;
I can but trust that good shall fall
At last, far off, at last to all,
And every winter change to spring.

APRIL 7.

Christ is ever present in and with His people, and while He is on board the ship cannot sink.

DR. GIFFORD.

And harm shall reach us never;
On Him we rest with faith assured,
Of all that live the mighty Lord,
For ever and for ever.

APRIL 8.

For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.—Ps. xci. 11.

'Many in this world of cares,'
Truly hath the poet said,
'Sit with angels unawares;'
Round our path and round our bed
Angels ever watch and wait,
Striving still to turn our steps unto heaven's gate.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 9.

Teach us the blessed hope of Thy life eternal, where we shall rise from wisdom to wisdom, ever drawing nearer to Thee.—GEORGE DAWSON.

Rise, my soul, and stretch thy wings,
  Thy better portion trace;
Rise from transitory things,
  Toward heaven, thy native place.

APRIL 10.

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.—ISA. ix. 1.

Awake, arise, thy light is come;
  The nations that before outshone thee,
Now at thy feet lie dark and dumb,
  The glory of the Lord is on thee!

APRIL 11.

Our life is a perpetual combat; but it is a conflict in which Jesus Christ fights with us on our side.
FENELON.

Strong in the Lord of Hosts,
  And in His mighty power;
Who in the strength of Jesus trusts
  Is more than conqueror.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 12.

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over.
LUKE vi. 38.

Riches why doth He confer?
That the rich may minister
To the children of distress,
To the poor and fatherless.

APRIL 13.

The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and He addeth no sorrow with it.—PROV. x. 22.

O All-sufficient, All-beneficent!
Thou God of goodness and of glory, hear!
Bless all mankind, and bring them in the end
To heaven, to immortality, and Thee.

APRIL 14.

How blessed to know that the dear Saviour enters into all our sorrows, and brings consolation for all!
COMFORTABLE THOUGHTS.

If wounded love my bosom swell,
Deceived by those I prized too well,
He shall His pitying aid bestow,
Who felt on earth severer woe,
At once betrayed, denied, or fled,
By those who shared His daily bread.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 15.

So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

HEB. xiii. 6.

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

APRIL 16.

Yes, yes, dear one, be always at peace, going on quietly with thy daily duties; more than that, be always joyous.—FROM THE FRENCH.

I ask Thee for a thoughtful love,
Through constant watching wise,
To meet the glad with joyful smiles,
And wipe the weeping eyes.

APRIL 17.

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment.—1 JOHN iv. 17.

Bold shall I stand in Thy great day;
For who aught to my charge shall lay?
Fully absolved through Thee I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 18.

Return unto thy rest, O my soul, for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee.—Ps. cxvi. 7.

Return, my soul, unto thy rest,
From God no longer roam;
His hand hath bountifully blest,
His goodness called thee home.

APRIL 19.

The bread of God is He which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.—John vi. 33.

Bread of Heaven! on Thee I feed,
For Thy flesh is meat indeed:
Ever may my soul be fed
With this true and living bread;
Day by day with strength supplied,
Through the life of Him who died.

APRIL 20.

Christ is the friend of the heart, its needed friend, as certainly as He is the Saviour of the world.

Dora Greenwell.

Our spirit's faint, our griefs prevail,
Leave not our trembling hearts to fail;
O Thou that hearest prayer, descend,
And still be found the mourner's friend.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 21.

It is beautiful to see a heart detached from the world; only then can we say, 'I believe.'—LOBSTEIN.

O world! how little do thy joys
Concern a soul that knows
Itself not made for such low toys
As thy poor hand bestows!

APRIL 22.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.—Ps. cxix. 105.

I am lost without Thy ray,
Guide my wandering footsteps, Lord!
Light my dark and erring way
With the brightness of Thy word.

APRIL 23.

Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.—ROM. viii. 33.

Who shall the Lord's elect condemn?
'Tis God that justifies their souls;
And mercy, like a mighty stream,
O'er all their sins divinely rolls.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 24.

For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.—2 COR. i. 5.

The soul, reposing on assured belief,
Feels herself happy amidst all her grief;
Forgets her labour as she toils along,
Weeps tears of joy, and bursts into a song.

APRIL 25.

A holy life does not prevent our feeling for the troubles of others, or close the heart to every generous emotion.—MONTALEMBERT.

Wherever in this world I am,
In whatsoe'er estate,
I have a fellowship with hearts
To keep and cultivate.

APRIL 26.

I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.—PHIL. iv. 2.

Content me with an humble shade,
My passions tamed, my wishes laid;
For while our wishes idly roll,
We banish quiet from the soul;
'Tis then we busy beat the air,
And misers gather wealth and care.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 27.

I bless Thee that with my mind I know, and with my heart I feel, that Thou my God art good.—PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING.

Before my faith's enlightened eyes
Make all Thy glorious goodness pass.
Thy goodness is the sight I prize;
O may I see Thy smiling face.

APRIL 28.

To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him.—DAN. IX. 9.

'Tis Thou alone can ease me of my pain,
Thy healing hand can wash out every stain,
Can cleanse my soul, and make the leper clean.
Speak, Love Divine, and bid the suppliant live;
Oh, let my ear but hail the word 'forgive!'

APRIL 29.

Be of good cheer; for if thy burden be heavy to bear, the dear Saviour will take it from thee.

CONSOLING TRUTHS.

Pilgrim, burdened with thy sin,
Come thy way to Zion's gate;
There, till mercy speaks within,
Knock, and weep, and watch, and wait.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

APRIL 30.

As the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee.—ISA. lxii. 5.

O happy, happy bride!
  Thy widowed hours are past;
The Bridegroom at thy side,
  Thou all His own at last.

MAY 1.

He hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure.—2 SAM. xxiii. 5.

My God, the covenant of Thy love
  Abides for ever sure;
And in its matchless grace I feel
  My happiness secure.

MAY 2.

Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always by all means.—2 THESS. iii. 16.

Come in, come in, Thou Prince of Peace,
And all the storms of sin shall cease,
  And fall, no more to rise;
Oh, if Thy Spirit still remain,
Our rest on distant shores we gain,
  Our haven in the skies.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 3.

He that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about.—Ps. xxxii. 10.

Thy Saviour sees thee through the gloom,
And will to thy assistance come ;
His love and mercy will be shown
To those who trust in Him alone.

MAY 4.

Love's secret is always to be doing something for God, and not to mind because they are such very little ones.—F. W. Faber.

A servant with this clause
Makes drudgery divine ;
Who sweeps a room as for Thy laws,
Makes that and the action fine.

MAY 5.

What a solace to our hearts is the assurance that we shall never cease to be members of a family !

John Pulsford.

O how good the hallowed union,
O how sweet the pure communion,
Of the family of God !
When in peace together dwelling,
Kindred love each bosom swelling.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 6.

But He knoweth the way that I take; when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.—JOB xxiii. 10.

Thy way, not mine, O Lord,
However dark it be!
Lead me by Thine own hand,
Choose out the path for me.

MAY 7.

If union with Christ be realized, then the world with its allurements will have less value in our eyes.
P. B. POWER.

I would not change my blest estate
For all the world calls good or great;
And while my faith can keep her hold,
I envy not the sinner's gold.

MAY 8.

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize?—1 COR. ix. 24.

The prize, the prize secure!
The athlete nearly fell;
Bare all he could endure,
And bear not always well:
But he may smile at troubles gone
Who puts the victor's garland on.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 9.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.—ROM. i. 16.

My soul, no more attempt to draw
Thy life and comfort from the law;
Fly to the hope the gospel gives:
The man that trusts the promise lives.

MAY 10.

My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness.—2 COR. xii. 9.

I want that grace which springs from Thee,
Which quickens all things where it flows,
And makes a wretched thorn like me
Bloom as the myrtle or the rose.

MAY 11.

For though He cause grief, yet will He have compassion, according to the multitude of His mercies.
LAM. iii. 31.

On Thy compassion I repose,
In weakness and distress;
I will not ask for greater ease,
Lest I should love Thee less.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 12.

Patience is the fair handmaid and daughter of faith; we cheerfully wait when we are certain we shall not wait in vain.—C. H. SPURGEON.

Oh, give to me the Christian's mind,
Neither depressed nor yet elate,
If active service be assigned,
Or patiently to watch and wait.

MAY 13.

For this God is our God for ever and ever: He will be our guide even unto death.—Ps. xlviii. 14.

Lord, I dare not walk alone
Through life's pathway bleak and wild;
Take my hand within Thine own,
Guide and lead me as a child.

MAY 14.

Blessed be the Lord; for He hath shewed me His marvellous kindness in a strong city.—Ps. xxxi. 21.

He saw me ruined in the Fall,
He loved me notwithstanding all;
He saved me from my lost estate,
His loving-kindness, oh how great!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 15.

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength . . . they shall walk and not faint.—ISA. xl. 31.

Walk with the Lord! along the road
  Your strength He will renew;
Wait on the everlasting God,
  And He will wait on you.

MAY 16.

In thy new creation how near and dear thou must be to the heart of God!—JOHN PULSFORD.

How much is mercy Thy delight,
  Thou ever blessèd God!
How dear Thy servants in Thy sight,
  How precious is their blood!

MAY 17.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee; because he trusted in Thee.—ISA. xxvi. 3.

Thou ever present aid
  In suffering and distress,
The soul which still on Thee is stayed,
  Is kept in perfect peace.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 18.

But unto you that fear My name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings.

MAL. iv. 2.

Sometimes a light surprises
The Christian while he sings;
It is the Lord, who rises
With healing in His wings.

MAY 19.

Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God.

MATT. v. 8.

Blest are the pure, whose hearts are clean
From defiling power of sin;
With endless pleasures they shall see
A God of spotless purity.

MAY 20.

How can we endure to live at such a distance from our Beloved? Lord Jesus, draw us near to Thyself.

C. H. SPURGEON.

O lift me higher, nearer Thee,
And as I rise more pure and meet,
O let my soul's humility
Make me lie lower at Thy feet;
Less trusting self, the more I prove
The blessed comfort of Thy love.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 21.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God.

Ps. xlii. 11.

The dreams that bless the weary soul,
  The struggles of the strong,
Are steps towards some happier goal,
  The story of Hope's song.

MAY 22.

Let my feelings, my wishes, my whole heart, all belonging to me, be under Thy especial influence.

P. B. Power.

Lord, hear my prayer, and let Thy love
Fall softly on this troubled heart,
And still its care, and hush its grief,
And confidence in Thee impart.

MAY 23.

A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you.—Ezek. xxxvi. 26.

A heart in every thought renewed,
  And filled with love divine;
Perfect, and right, and pure, and good,
  A copy, Lord, of Thine.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 24.

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see God.—HEB. xii. 14.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me;
I myself would holy be;
Separate from sin, I would
Choose and cherish all things good,
And whatever I can be,
Give to Him who gave me Thee.

MAY 25.

Follow God in the pathway of a simple faith, losing sight of all that He would hide from us.—FENELON.

Thrice holy Faith! whatever thorns I meet,
As on I totter with unpractised feet,
Still let me stretch my arms, and cling to Thee,
Meek nurse of souls, through my long infancy.

MAY 26.

Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil.—HEB. vi. 19.

Behind the cloud the starlight lurks,
Through showers the sunbeams fall;
For God, who loveth all His works,
Has left His hope with all.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 27.

In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.—JOHN xiv. 2.

'Let not your heart be troubled,' then He said,
'My Father's House has mansions large and fair;
I go before you to prepare your place:
I will return to take you with me there.'

MAY 28.

Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord.—EPH. v. 19.

To the Source of every blessing
  Grateful anthems let us raise:
Holy joy, our souls possessing,
  Swell the tribute of our praise.

MAY 29.

Better is it to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.
PROV. xvi. 19.

When Mary chose the 'better part,'
  She meekly sat at Jesus' feet!
And Lydia's gently-opened heart
  Was made for God's own temple meet;
Fairest and best adorned is she
Whose clothing is humility.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

MAY 30.

As we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.—1 COR. XV. 49.

Thine image, Lord, bestow,
  Thy presence and Thy love;
We ask to serve thee here below,
  And reign with Thee above.

MAY 31.

If in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan.—JER. xii. 5.

When I tread the banks of Jordan,
  May my soul no tremblings know;
Be, my Saviour, near to guide me,
  And uphold me as I go
    Through the waters.

JUNE 1.

Put on the crown of spiritual manhood as you step out into life's battles, and, Christ helping you, bring it forth unstained.—BALDWIN BROWN.

Soldiers of Christ, arise,
  And put your armour on;
Strong in the strength which God supplies
  Through His eternal Son.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 2.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications, and enter not into judgment with Thy servant.

Ps. cxliii. 1, 2.

Oh, hear a suppliant heart all crushed
And crumbled into contrite dust;
My Hope, my Fear, my Judge, my Friend,
Take charge of me, and of my end.

JUNE 3.

Those who begin their hymns in the straits of tribulation will often find themselves swelling the chorus 'in a large place.'

REV. S. W. CHRISTOPHER.

The bars of my prison I love;
All toil here untried,
And wants well supplied,
I am blest and enriched from above.

JUNE 4.

Thine eyes shall see the King in His beauty; they shall behold the land that is very far off.

ISA. xxxiii. 17.

When shall these eyes thy heaven-built walls
And pearly gates behold;
Thy bulwarks with salvation strong,
And streets of shining gold?

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 5.

This is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent.—JOHN xvii. 3.

My knowledge of that life is small,
The eye of faith is dim;
But 'tis enough that Christ knows all,
And I shall be with Him.

JUNE 6.

As the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him.

Ps. ciii. 11.

We love Thee, Lord, because when we
Had erred and gone astray,
Thou didst recall our wandering souls
Into the heavenly way.

JUNE 7.

I would live in Christ's heart; in the clefts of that rock my soul would eternally abide.

C. H. SPURGEON.

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy side, a healing flood,
Be of sin the double cure,
Save from wrath, and make me pure.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 8.

I found Him whom my soul loveth; I held Him, and would not let Him go.—SONG OF SOLOMON iii. 4.

When my precious Lord I find,
All my ardent passions glow;
Him with cords of love I bind,
Hold, and will not let Him go.

JUNE 9.

Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? . . . And He lifted up His hands and blessed them.—LUKE xxiv. 38, 50.

Thou seest our weakness, Lord,
Our hearts are known to Thee;
O lift Thou up the sinking hand,
Confirm the feeble knee.

JUNE 10.

Sing unto Him a new song. . . . He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God.

Ps. xxxiii. 3; xl. 3.

And a new song is in my mouth,
To long-loved music set;
Glory to Thee for all the grace
I have not tasted yet.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 11.

My heart is full of that joy Thou givest to them that love Thee in the midst of their greatest crosses.

MADAME GUYON.

Take up thy cross; let not its weight
Fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
His love shall bear thy spirit up,
And brace thy heart and nerve thy arm.

JUNE 12.

Let us run with patience that race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith.—HEB. xii. 1, 2.

O eyes that are weary, and hearts that are sore,
Look off unto Jesus, and sorrow no more!
The light of His countenance shineth so bright,
That on earth, as in heaven, there need be no night.

JUNE 13.

And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away and be at rest.—PS. lv. 6.

O had I, my Saviour, the wings of a dove,
How soon would I soar to Thy presence above!
How soon would I fly where the weary have rest,
And hide all my cares in Thy sheltering breast!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 14.

What is best of all, God is with us. This is our strength and our joy.—DAVID THOMAS.

Always with us, always with us,
Words of cheer and words of love;
Thus the risen Saviour whispers
From His dwelling-place above.

JUNE 15.

I will arise and go to my father . . . When he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.
LUKE XV. 18, 20.

Just as I am—without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

JUNE 16.

If any man love Me, he will keep My words; and My Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.—JOHN XIV. 23.

O God, how richly am I blest!
Thy home is in a fragile heart
O may I keep Thee ever there,
And never let Thee once depart.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 17.

Christ is a thousand times more willing and earnest to do all for His sheep than the best human shepherd.

LUTHER.

Shepherd of Israel, Thou dost guide,
When heart and flesh alike complain,
Where living waters sweetly glide
To freshen thirsty souls again.

JUNE 18.

I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever.—JOHN xiv. 16.

Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed
His tender last farewell,
A Guide, a Comforter bequeathed,
With us to dwell.

JUNE 19.

When Thou saidst, Seek ye My face; my heart said unto Thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek.—Ps. xxvii. 8.

Thy face, O Lord, in darkest night,
My spirit yearns to see;
O shed Thy wondrous light around—
Reveal Thy face to me!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 20.

From the first watch of the night, even unto the break of day, the eternal Watcher observes His saints.

C. H. SPURGEON.

Though enwrapt in gloomy night,
We perceive no ray of light;
Since the Lord Himself is here,
'Tis not meet that we should fear.

JUNE 21.

Remember that the ways of wisdom are 'ways of pleasantness.'—L. B. WALFORD.

The heart that trusts for ever sings,
And feels as light as it had wings;
A well of grace within it springs,
Come good or ill;
Whate'er to-day, to-morrow brings,
It is His will.

JUNE 22.

Come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord. . . . Walk in the light, as He is in the light.

ISA. ii. 5; 1 JOHN i. 7.

Walk in the light; so shalt thou know
That fellowship of love
His Spirit only can bestow,
Who reigns in light above.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 23.

How great and transcendent is the love of God when He calls us 'sons'! Sons! therefore heirs of His glory.—COMFORTING TRUTHS.

Behold what wondrous grace
The Father hath bestowed
On sinners of a mortal race,
To call them sons of God!

JUNE 24.

I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

Ps. xviii. 3.

To God I cried when troubles rose;
He heard me, and subdued my foes;
He did my rising fears control,
And strength diffused through all my soul.

JUNE 25.

Let Thy peace rest upon my soul. I lay myself down under the shelter of Thy loving care.

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVING.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 26.

My soul waiteth for the Lord, more than they that watch for the morning. . . . Lo, I am with you alway.—Ps. cxxx. 6; MATT. xxviii. 20.

Lord! we sit and cry to Thee,
  Like the blind beside the way;
Make our darkened souls to see
  The glory of Thy perfect day.

JUNE 27.

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bearing his sheaves with him.—Ps. cxxvi. 6.

Sow thy seed, and reap in gladness!
  Man himself is all a seed;
Hope and hardship, joy and sadness,
  Slow the plant to ripeness lead.

JUNE 28.

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.—PHIL. ii. 3.

There is a cross in every lot,
  And an earnest need for prayer;
But a lowly heart that leans on Thee
  Is happy anywhere.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JUNE 29.

My God, I rejoice in Thy power to teach, in Thy patience in teaching. Teach that we may be wise unto salvation.—CALEB MORRIS.

How sweetly flowed the Gospel's sound
From lips of gentleness and grace;
When listening thousands gathered round,
And joy and reverence filled the place!

JUNE 30.

Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.—REV. xix. 9.

Help me to put a wedding garment on
For the great marriage supper; and to wear
Thy choice of ornaments, while I await
The coming of the Bridegroom.

JULY 1.

Wilt thou not from this time cry unto Me, My Father, Thou art the guide of my youth!—JER. iii. 4.

I would not have the restless will
That hurries to and fro,
Seeking for some great thing to do,
Or secret thing to know;
I would be treated as a child,
And guided where to go.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 2.

Tell me, O Thou whom my soul loveth, where Thou feedest, where Thou makest Thy flock to rest at noon.
SONG OF SOLOMON i. 7.

When in the sultry glebe I faint,
Or on the thirsty mountain pant,
To fertile vales and dewy meads
My weary wandering steps He leads.

JULY 3.

O eternal God! wean my heart from temporal things, and fix it upon those of eternity.—BOSSUET.

O might I once mount up and see
The glories of the eternal skies,
What little things these worlds would be!
How despicable to my eyes!

JULY 4.

This is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.
I JOHN iii. 11.

Love never fails: though knowledge cease,
Though prophecies decay,
Love, Christian love, shall still increase,
Shall still extend her sway.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 5.

Thou shalt forget thy misery, and remember it as waters that pass away.—JOB xi. 16.

Father! Thy word shall be my guide;
Thy promise sweet my soul shall cheer;
And when by misery sorely tried,
Oh! may Thy smile dispel my fear.

JULY 6.

Christians do not risk largely upon their Saviour's word, and this is the one thing they have to do.

DR. NEWMAN.

My Saviour! I would trust in Thee
When days are dark and nights are sad;
My burden I would thrust on Thee,
Believing Thou canst make me glad.

JULY 7.

Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud; and He shall hear my voice.

Ps. lv. 17.

O Thou by whom we come to God,
The Life, the Truth, the Way,
The path of prayer Thyself hath trod;
Lord, teach us how to pray.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 8.

I desire, O my God, henceforth to be devoted body, soul, and spirit unto Thee; the desire of my heart is to live for Thee.—P. B. POWER.

A few forsake the throng: with lifted eyes
Ask wealth of Heaven, and gain a real prize—
Truth, wisdom, grace, and peace like that above,
Sealed with His signet, whom they *serve* and love.

JULY 9.

As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about His people from henceforth for ever.—Ps. cxxv. 2.

A safe stronghold our God is still,
A trusty shield and weapon:
He'll help us safe from all the ill
That hath us now o'ertaken.

JULY 10.

The Lord shall be thy everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.—ISA. lx. 20.

The Father of eternal light
Shall there His beams display;
Nor shall one moment's darkness mix
With that unvaried day.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 11.

To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.—REV. ii. 7.

I fight the fight, I run the race,
  And I shall surely win:
My conquering Captain gives me grace
  The gates to enter in.

JULY 12.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds, through Christ Jesus.—PHIL. iv. 7.

If thou canst get but thither,
  There grows the flower of peace;
The rose that cannot wither,
  Thy fortress and thy ease.

JULY 13.

Let us commit ourselves to Jesus Christ; He only requires that we should leave all to Him. We are safe beneath His love.—BOSSUET.

So I to Thee, my Saviour, look,
  And in Thy face divine
Can read the love that will sustain
  As weak a faith as mine.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 14.

There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.—Ps. xci. 10.

Thee, though winds and waves be swelling,
God, thine hope, shall bear through all;
Plague shall not come nigh thy dwelling,
Thee no evil shall befall.

JULY 15.

Dearly beloved, I beseech you, as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.—1 Pet. ii. 11.

Is not the pilgrim's toil o'erpaid
By the clear rill and palmy shade?
And see we not, up earth's dark glade,
The gate of heaven unclose?

JULY 16.

Faith can run unto God's all-sufficiency, and say, Be quiet; there is enough in God alone.—W. Bridge.

Oh, not in circling depth or height,
But in the conscious breast,
Present to faith, though veiled from sight,
There does His Spirit rest.
O come, Thou presence Infinite!
And make Thy creature blest.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 17.

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God.—ROM. xiii. 1.

His sovereign power, without our aid,
  Made us of clay and formed us men;
And when like wandering sheep we strayed,
  He brought us to His fold again.

JULY 18.

While I live I will praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have my being.
Ps. cxlvi. 2.

Give to your God immortal praise,
Mercy and truth are all His ways;
Wonders of grace to God belong,
Repeat His mercies in your song.

JULY 19.

All the promises of God in Him (Jesus) are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.
2 COR. i. 20.

Firm as His throne His promise stands,
  And He can well secure
What I've committed to His hands
  Till the decisive hour.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 20.

In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength.

ISA. XXX. 15.

Quiet, Lord, my froward heart,
  Make me teachable and mild,
Upright, simple, free from art;
  Make me as a weanèd child.

JULY 21.

We must say, 'Our Father.' That childlike appeal touches the very heart of God, and always brings down some blessing.—EUGENIE DE GUERIN.

Father! at Thy dear feet kneeling,
  All my thoughts go up to Thee,
In my heart of hearts believing
  Thou hast love for such as me.

JULY 22.

If thou seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find Him, if thou seek Him with all thy heart and soul.

DEUT. IV. 29.

Ah, dear God, why toil I here
  In painful journeyings to and fro,
But to seek and find Thee near,
  The Healer of my heart's deep woe?

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 23.

I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.—REV. xxi. 6.

This living water flows
Not heedlessly, nor vain;
Drink, it a fountain of life bestows,
Ye never can thirst again.

JULY 24.

I will set him on high, because he hath known My name.—PS. xci. 14.

How happy, Lord, that soul must be,
Exalted by Thy grace,
Who knew Thy name on this bleak earth,
And now beholds Thy face!
Ah, happy soul! all troubles past,
Thy joy and bliss for ever last.

JULY 25.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads.—ISA. xxxv. 10.

The ransomed shout to their glorious King,
Where no sorrow shades the soul as they sing;
But a sinless and joyous song they raise,
And their voice of prayer is eternal praise.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 26.

We all know that we have each our Guardian Angel, who watches over us.—CALVIN.

They are God's ministering spirits, and are sent,
His messengers of mercy, to fulfil
Good for salvation's heirs. For us they still
Grieve when we sin, rejoice when we repent.

JULY 27.

My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise Thee with joyful lips.—Ps. lxiii. 5.

O happy they who know the Lord,
With whom He deigns to dwell!
He feeds and cheers them by His Word,
His arm supports them well.

JULY 28.

Ah! Jesus, we shall have reason to complain of Thee for being so lovely, if Thou wilt not give us love.
F. W. FABER.

All my treasure is above;
All my riches is Thy love:
Who the worth of love can tell?
Infinite, unsearchable!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

JULY 29.

I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are right, and that Thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me.

Ps. cxix. 75.

With equal eye my various lot receive,
Resigned to die, or resolute to live:
Prepared to kiss the sceptre or the rod,
While God is seen in all, and all in God.

JULY 30.

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that sleep.—1 Cor. xv. 20.

Jesus is risen! triumphal anthems sing!
Thus from dead winter mounts the sprightly spring.
Jesus is risen! He shall the world restore!
Awake, ye dead! dull sinners, sleep no more!

JULY 31.

Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly of heart.—Matt. xi. 29.

Lord, if Thou the grace impart,
Poor in spirit, meek in heart,
I shall as my Master be,
Clothèd with humility.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 1.

So love us that we may love Thee, so guide us that we may come to Thee, so forgive and comfort us that we may live in Thee.—GEORGE DAWSON.

Lord, may our union form a part
  Of that thrice happy whole,
Derive its pulse from Thee, the heart,
  Its life from Thee, the soul.

AUGUST 2.

For our sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich.—2 COR. viii. 9.

The joys and treasures of a day
  I cheerfully resign;
Rich in that large, immortal store,
  Secured by grace divine.

AUGUST 3.

I turn to Thee, my Father, the Lord of peace, the Giver of rest, the Author of all things beautiful and good.—PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS.

Where is the God unknown,
  Unfound, below, above?
Behold! His name is one,
  Behold! His name is Love.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 4.

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over.
LUKE vi. 38.

Dear Saviour, if we give to Thee,
Or to Thy loved ones here below,
Thy bounteous hand will evermore
Rich blessings on our lives bestow.

AUGUST 5.

Look unto Me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is none else.
ISA. xlv. 22.

He who my soul in safety keeps
Shall drive destruction hence;
The Lord, thy Keeper, never sleeps;
The Lord is thy defence.

AUGUST 6.

Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.—Ps. xxiii. 4.

He who each bitter cup rejects,
No living spring shall quaff;
He whom Thy rod in love corrects,
Shall lean upon Thy staff:
Happy, thrice happy, then, is he,
Who knows the chastening is from Thee.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 7.

The smitten soul is a soul well guarded and protected: the blood of Christ is pleading its cause.

LOBSTEIN.

Behold me through Thy beams of love,
While on this couch of tears I lie;
And cleanse my sordid soul within
By Thy Christ's blood, the bath of sin.

AUGUST 8.

For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.

MATT. xi. 30.

And dost Thou call the burden light?
It is not light, O Lord, to me;
I faint beneath the weary weight
I carry up the fearful height,
My sin and my infirmity.

AUGUST 9.

Look upon the sacrifice of the death of Christ, as the everlasting witness to God's sympathy with man.

DORA GREENWELL.

I cannot give youth's burning tear
And kiss, its service glad and free;
But I can bless Thee, O Thou dear
Redeemer, who hast died for me.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 10.

Thou shalt know that I am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.—ISA. lx. 16.

My soul shall cry to Thee, O Lord!
To Thee, supreme incarnate Word!
My rock and fortress, shield and friend,
Creator, Saviour, source, and end!

AUGUST 11.

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.—ISA. lv. 6.

Give us the faith to feel and know
  That Thou art mirrored full and true
Within the breast, as Thou dost show
  Thy sun amid a drop of dew.
And thus from sleep Thy saints upraise,
To seek Thy face in prayer and praise.

AUGUST 12.

Then said Jesus, I am the good Shepherd, and know My sheep, and am known of Mine.—JOHN x. 14.

I love my Shepherd's voice,
  His watchful eyes shall keep
My wandering soul among
  The thousands of His sheep.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 13.

Kneel down reverently in prayer, and thou art at once in the society of saints and angels.

DR. NEWMAN.

A saint! oh, would that I could claim
The privileged, the honoured name,
And confidently take my stand,
Though lowest, in the saintly band!

AUGUST 14.

I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto Me.

ISA. xliv. 22.

Return, O wanderer, return,
And seek an injured Father's face;
Those warm desires that in thee burn,
Were kindled by reclaiming grace.

AUGUST 15.

The voice of the wakeful heart is really the voice of our Beloved, saying, 'Open to Me!'

C. H. SPURGEON.

O lovely attitude! He stands
With melting heart and laden hands;
My soul forsakes her every sin,
And lets the heavenly stranger in.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 16.

Our way to heaven must be a fight. But strength for this fight we receive from Christ.

JOHN PULSFORD.

My bleeding Lord, upon the way,
I often think I see;
And oft, methinks, I hear Him say,
I suffered all for thee.

AUGUST 17.

The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things.—JOHN xiv. 26.

He comes sweet influence to impart,
A gracious, willing guest,
Where he can find one humble heart
Wherein to rest.

AUGUST 18.

Jacob lay down in that place to sleep. . . . He giveth His beloved sleep.—GEN. xxviii. 11; PS. cxxvii. 2.

Of all the thoughts of God that are
Borne inward into souls afar,
Along the Psalmist's music deep,
Now tell me if there any is,
For gifts or grace surpassing this—
'He giveth His beloved sleep'?

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 19.

Christ hath suffered for us. . . . If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed.

1 PET. iv. 1, 16.

Forsaken, are ye? so was He;
Reviled? yet check the 'vengeful word;
Rejected? should the servant be
Exalted o'er his suffering Lord?

AUGUST 20.

Take, eat; this is My body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me.—1 COR. xi. 24.

All the words He ever spoke,
  Still for us He speaketh:
All the bread He ever broke,
  Still for us He breaketh,
Still the faithful Shepherd feeds;
Jesus lives, and Jesus leads.

AUGUST 21.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man.—1 COR. x. 13.

When temptations sore assail,
When the tempter's arts prevail—
Be my guide and help indeed,
In that hour of sorest need.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 22.

Listen to the voice of the Divine Captain: 'Mine angels shall go before thee, and shall bring thee into the place which I have prepared.'—BALDWIN BROWN.

Come to the golden city;
O friends, I must be going!
I hear my Lord's own voice—I hear
The sounds of music flowing.

AUGUST 23.

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth. . . . But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.
MATT. vi. 19, 20.

Oh, he obtains the richest prize,
Who, lying in his cot at rest,
Finds heavenly peace a willing guest,
And bears the promise in his breast
Of treasure in the skies.

AUGUST 24.

Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you.—1 PET. iv. 12.

Lord, search my soul, try every thought;
Though my own heart accuse me not
Of walking in a false disguise,
I beg a trial of Thine eyes.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 25.

Thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ.—2 COR. ii. 14.

As surely as He overcame,
And triumphed once for you;
So surely you that love His name
Shall triumph in Him too.

AUGUST 26.

When a good man is ill at his ease, God promiseth to make all his bed in his sickness.—THOMAS FULLER.

O Lord, how happy should we be,
If we could cast our care on Thee;
If we from self could rest,
And feel at heart that One above,
In perfect wisdom, perfect love,
Is working for the best!

AUGUST 27.

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.—JOHN xiv. 6.

Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life—
Grant us to know that way,
That truth to keep, that life to win,
Which leads to endless day.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 28.

Through God we shall do valiantly; for He it is that will tread down our enemies.—Ps. cviii. 13.

Who would true valour see,
Let him come hither;
Here's one will constant be,
Come wind, come weather.

AUGUST 29.

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.—Ps. xxxvii. 5.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end!
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

AUGUST 30.

Our faith lives on what it touches. If you are able to touch Christ, His life will thrill through yours.

PAXTON HOOD.

O Rock of Ages, Fount of bliss,
Thy needful help afford,
And let our constant prayer be this—
'Increase our faith, O Lord.'

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

AUGUST 31.

The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble . . . I poured out my complaint before Him; I shewed before Him my trouble.—Ps. xx. 1; cxlii. 2.

Lord, when my troubled spirit could not rest
For anguish of my mind, Thou knewest best
What way to help me, and did see
A path through all to set me free.

SEPTEMBER 1.

Look at Calvary, and learn in whose name to seek salvation, and through whose merits to hope for it.

DR. GUTHRIE.

Thou only Sovereign of my heart,
My refuge, my Almighty Friend,
And can my soul from Thee depart,
On whom alone my hopes depend?

SEPTEMBER 2.

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.—Ps. xc. 12.

So teach us, Lord, to count our days,
And eye their constant race,
To measure what we want in time,
By wisdom and by grace.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 3.

You have many crosses to bear, and you must be in need of them, if God sends them.—FENELON.

I'll trace His steps and bear my cross
Despising every grief and loss;
Since He, despising pain and shame,
First took up His, and did the same.

SEPTEMBER 4.

Unto Thee, O Lord, belongeth mercy; for Thou renderest to every man according to his work.

Ps. lxii. 12.

If Heaven
Did in the balance of strict justice weigh
The iniquity of men, who could abide
Its judgment, did not mercy temper wrath?

SEPTEMBER 5.

Ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

JOHN XV. 19.

Let worldly minds the world pursue;
What are its charms to me?
Once I admired its trifles too;
But grace has set me free.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 6.

Surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before Him.—ECCLES. viii. 12.

Lord, let Thy fear within us dwell,
Thy love our footsteps guide;
That love will all vain love expel;
That fear, all fear beside.

SEPTEMBER 7.

There I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy-seat.—EX. xxv. 22.

To Thy temple I repair,
Lord, I love to worship there,
When within the veil I meet
Christ before the mercy-seat.

SEPTEMBER 8.

There wrestled a man with him until the breaking of day. . . . I will not let thee go, until Thou bless me.
GEN. xxxii. 24, 26.

Come, O Thou Traveller unknown,
Whom still I hold, but cannot see!
My company before is gone,
And I am left alone with Thee;
With Thee all night I mean to stay,
And wrestle till the break of day.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 9.

These words shall be in thine heart: thou shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house.

DEUT. vi. 6, 7.

O may the gracious words divine
  Subject of all my converse be!
So will the Lord His servant join,
  And walk and talk Himself with me.

SEPTEMBER 10.

If any man serve Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be.

JOHN xii. 26.

O Master, point Thou out the way,
Nor suffer Thou our steps to stray;
Then in that path that leads to day,
  We follow Thee.

SEPTEMBER 11.

As the venerable patriarch lay dying, those around his bed heard him murmur: 'The best of all is, God is with us!'—LIFE OF WESLEY.

Beyond, beyond the boundless sea,
  Above that dome of sky,
Further than thought itself can flee,
  Thy dwelling is on high:
Yet dear the awful thought to me,
  That Thou, my God, art nigh.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 12.

For Thy name's sake, lead me and guide me. . . . I will guide thee with Mine eye.—Ps. xxxi. 3; xxxii. 8.

Eye of God's word! where'er we turn,
  Ever upon us! Thy keen gaze
Can all the depths of sin discern,
  Unravel every bosom's maze.

SEPTEMBER 13.

None of His servants does He disappoint in death. All find riches there, more than they looked for.

F. W. Faber.

Let me be with Thee where Thou art,
  My Saviour, my eternal rest;
Then only will this longing heart
  Be fully and completely blest.

SEPTEMBER 14.

My times are in Thy hands: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies.—Ps. xxxi. 15.

To Thee, O Lord, I cry for help
  In this my hour of need;
My times are in Thy mighty hand,
  Therefore I boldly plead,
O come, dear Lord, and with Thy power
  Assist me in this trying hour.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 15.

Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst.—JOHN iv. 14.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
Stoop down, and drink, and live.

SEPTEMBER 16.

Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.—MATT. xxviii. 20.

O Thou, by long experience tried,
Near whom no grief can long abide,
My Lord, how full of sweet content
I pass my years of banishment!

SEPTEMBER 17.

Let us follow Christ to the cross, like St. John. It can never mislead us.—FENELON.

Lord, should my path through suffering lie,
Forbid it I should e'er repine;
Still let me turn to Calvary,
Nor heed my grief, remembering Thine.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 18.

My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness.—2 COR. xii. 9.

I glory in infirmity,
That Jesus' power may rest on me;
When I am weak, then am I strong;
Grace is my shield, and Christ my song.

SEPTEMBER 19.

God is rich, and I am poor; and yet I want nothing. God is love. I want nothing but God and His glory.
MADAME GUYON.

Love and grief my heart dividing,
With my tears His feet I'll bathe,
Constant still in faith abiding,
Life deriving from His death.

SEPTEMBER 20.

The dove came to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf.—GEN. viii. 11.

Oh! who could bear life's stormy doom,
Did not Thy wing of love
Come brightly wafting through the gloom
One peace-branch from above!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 21.

Cast me not off in the time of old age. . . . And even to hoar hairs will I carry you.—Ps. lxxi. 9; Isa. xlvi. 4.

Cast me not off when strength declines,
When hoary hairs arise;
And round me let Thy glory shine,
Whene'er Thy servant dies.

SEPTEMBER 22.

And He said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

Mark iv. 39.

Calm me, my God, and keep me calm,
While these hot breezes blow;
Be like the night-dew's cooling balm
Upon earth's fevered brow!

SEPTEMBER 23.

Are they (angels) not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?—Heb. i. 14.

Thy ministering spirits descend
To watch while Thy saints are asleep;
By day and by night they attend,
The heirs of salvation to keep.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 24.

For there they required of us a song. . . . How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?
Ps. cxxxvii. 3, 4.

Though in a foreign land,
We are not far from home,
And nearer to our house above
We every moment come.

SEPTEMBER 25.

Because he hath set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him.—Ps. xci. 14.

When trouble like a gloomy cloud,
Has gathered thick and thundered loud,
He near my soul has always stood,
His loving-kindness, oh, how good!

SEPTEMBER 26.

Jesus Christ did not die for societies of men, but for each individual soul.—VINET.

What language shall I borrow,
To praise Thee, heavenly Friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
Let me not faithless prove
For such dear dying love!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 27.

If God be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, then shall the Lord be my God.

GEN. xxviii. 20, 21.

If Thou my future course attend,
My first, my never-failing Friend,
And o'er each circumstance preside,
Then I shall want no other guide.

SEPTEMBER 28.

I said, that God would give them freedom, peace, and happiness.—SARAH MARTIN.

Now worn with conflict in the war,
  Though victory still shall crown my days,
More of Thy presence give, and fill
  My heart with peace, my lips with praise.

SEPTEMBER 29.

Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life.—JOHN vi. 68.

Lord, speak, and let Thy servant hear;
Trembling I wait to hear Thy voice;
Dispel my doubts, disperse my fears,
And bid my aching heart rejoice.
To whom, Lord, can we go but Thee?
For Thou hast love and sympathy.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

SEPTEMBER 30.

Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.—1 COR. xvi. 13.

From strength to strength go on,
Wrestle, and fight, and pray;
Tread all the powers of darkness down,
And win the well-fought day.

OCTOBER 1.

Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom—LUKE xii. 32.

I'm but a stranger here,
Earth is a desert drear,
Danger and sorrow stand
Round me on every hand;
Heaven is my fatherland.

OCTOBER 2.

At midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet Him.
MATT. XXV. 6.

The Bridegroom is arising,
And soon He will draw nigh;
Up! watch, and pray, and wrestle,
At midnight comes the cry.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 3.

Blessed are those that weep; they weep over some sacrifice, and great will be their reward.

LASTING TRUTHS.

Only wait and trust Him,
  Trust Him, our dearest Lord;
Thy sacrifice accepted,
  How great is thy reward!

OCTOBER 4.

We know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.

1 JOHN iii. 2.

Behold Thee as Thou art;
  Behold Thee in Thy beauty,
Behold Thee face to face,
  Behold Thee in Thy glory,
And reap Thy smile of grace.

OCTOBER 5.

Christ, who is the cause of your heart trouble, will help you. Only hold fast to this, that you are the apple of His eye.—LUTHER.

'Tis done, the great transaction's done;
  I am my Lord's, and He is mine:
He drew me, and I followed on,
  Glad to confess the voice divine.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 6.

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope.

ROM. XV. 13.

O sacred hope! O blissful hope!
Which Jesus' grace has given;
The hope, when days and years are past,
We all shall meet in heaven.

OCTOBER 7.

We believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.—1 THESS. iv. 14.

Asleep in Jesus! blessed sleep,
From which none ever wake to weep;
A calm and undisturbed repose,
Unbroken by the last of woes.

OCTOBER 8.

If God so clothed the grass of the field, shall He not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith!

MATT. vi. 30.

View the flowers that smile and die,
Watched by an Almighty eye,
Thou to heaven art dearer far
Than the wilding blossoms are.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 9.

How precious also are Thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!—Ps. cxxxix. 17.

How precious are Thy thoughts to me!
And who can sum the whole?
They lighten every care of life,
And feed my hungry soul.

OCTOBER 10.

Love is such an affection, as cannot so properly be said to be in the soul, as the soul to be in that.

SOUTH.

Love is the sweetest bud that blows;
Its beauty never dies:
On earth among the saints it grows,
And ripens in the skies.

OCTOBER 11.

My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord; I will direct my prayer unto Thee, I will look up.

Ps. v. 3.

Lord, I my vows to Thee renew;
Scatter my sins as morning dew;
Guard my first springs of thought and will,
And with Thyself my spirit fill.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 12.

I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably to her.—Hos. ii. 14.

I do not fear the wilderness
  Where Thou hast been before,
Nay, rather will I daily press
  After Thee, hear Thee more.

OCTOBER 13.

When the dear hour of the wedding feast shall come, all thy toils shall be as though they had never been.

C. H. Spurgeon.

Jesus, to win Thyself so fair,
Thy cross I will with gladness bear;
Since so the rules of Heaven ordain,
The first I'll wed the next to gain.

OCTOBER 14.

Let us run with patience the race that is set before us.—Heb. xii. 1.

Uphold me in the doubtful race,
  Nor suffer me to stray;
Strengthen my feet with steady pace
  Still to press forward in Thy way;
My soul and flesh, O Lord of might,
Fill, satiate, with Thy heavenly light.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 15.

When the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

1 PET. v. 4.

So be ours the faith that saveth,
Hope that every trial braveth,
Love that to the end endureth,
And, through Christ, the crown secureth.

OCTOBER 16.

O send out Thy light and truth; let them lead me, let them bring me unto Thy holy hill.—Ps. xliii. 3.

Father of all, to Thee we pray,
By night in secret insecure;
But the darkness is like day,
If the heart within is pure.
Oh, who can take Thy light away?

OCTOBER 17.

Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

ISA. iii. 10.

Ay me! how many perils do enfold
The righteous man, to make him daily fall!
Were not that heavenly grace doth him uphold,
And steadfast truths acquit him out of all.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 18.

God Himself hath told us, that His Word shall be 'a light to our feet and a lantern to our paths.'

ATTERBURY.

The Spirit breathes upon the Word,
And brings the Truth to sight;
Precepts and promises afford
A sanctifying light.

OCTOBER 19.

They that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.—Ps. xxxiv. 10.

Believing in Thy promise, Lord,
We seek Thee in Thy gracious word:
Crown Thou our search with rich success,
Be Thou henceforth our happiness;
Then shall we know Thy promise sure,
And follow Thee, the just, the pure.

OCTOBER 20.

Behold the fowls of the air. . . . Your Heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?—MATT. vi. 26.

The wild bird's song is a song of praise,
Which, thankful, he uplifts;
Ever, like him, thy voice upraise
To the Giver of all good gifts.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 21.

I am the good Shepherd; the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep.—JOHN X. 11.

The lamb is in the fold,
  In perfect safety penned;
The lion once had hold,
  And thought to make an end;
But One came by with wounded side,
And for the sheep the Shepherd died.

OCTOBER 22.

He that seeks perfection on earth leaves nothing new for the saints to find in Heaven.—F. OSBORNE.

Only through grace of Him, by whom
  Perfection into this world came,
Dare we attempt to tread the road,—
  We would be perfect as His name.

OCTOBER 23.

Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with His hand.

Ps. xxxvii. 24.

God, my supporter and my hope,
  My help for ever near,
Thine arm of mercy held me up,
  When sinking in despair.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 24.

I will behold Thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied when I awake with Thy likeness.—Ps. xvii. 15.

My flesh shall slumber in the ground
Till the last trumpet's joyful sound;
Then burst the chains with sweet surprise,
And in my Saviour's image rise.

OCTOBER 25.

We are prepared for everything when we have yielded ourselves wholly to God.—Bossuet.

Resign thy joys and hopes to God;
  Cast flesh and sin away;
Pursue the path thy Saviour trod,
  And rise to endless day.

OCTOBER 26.

They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.—Isa. xxxv. 10.

Go bury thy sorrow, the world hath its share;
Go bury it deep, go hide it with care,
Go think of it calmly, when curtained by night,
Go tell it to Jesus, and all will be right.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 27.

For thou shalt have thy delight in the Almighty, and shalt lift up thy face unto God.—JOB xxii. 26.

Almighty Father of mankind,
On Thee my hopes remain;
And, when the day of trouble comes,
I shall not trust in vain.

OCTOBER 28.

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.—LUKE xv. 10.

Who can describe the joys that rise
Through all the courts of Paradise
To see a prodigal return,
To see an heir of glory born?

OCTOBER 29.

I am the Rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys.
SONG OF SOLOMON ii. 1.

Jesus, the saints' perpetual theme,
What fragrant odours fill the name
Of lovely Sharon's Rose!
As ointment pourèd forth it spreads
A sweet perfume, an unction sheds,
Whence joy celestial flows.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

OCTOBER 30.

They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed; but abideth for ever.

Ps. cxxv. 1.

Firm we abide in Thee, dear Lord,
Our trust has not been vain;
No storm hath moved us from Thy love,
In which we still remain.

OCTOBER 31.

Humility gives freedom to the soul, and liberty in its actions towards God.—Pere Chocane.

Lowly and solemn be
Thy children's cry to Thee,
Father divine;
A hymn of suppliant breath,
Owning that life and death
Alike are Thine.

NOVEMBER 1.

Happy the soldier of Jesus Christ, who can show his Lord the marks of combat.—Gaussen.

Soldier, lay thy weapons down,
Quit the crowd and take the crown;
Triumph! all thy foes are banished,
Death is slain, and earth has vanished.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 2.

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer . . . let your requests be made known unto God.

PHIL. iv. 6.

No carefulness! O child of God,
For nothing careful be!
But cast thou all thy care on Him
Who always cares for thee.

NOVEMBER 3.

And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of Hosts in that day when I make up my jewels.—MAL. iii. 17.

Why should I shrink from pain and woe,
Or feel at death dismay?
I've Canaan's goodly land in view,
And realms of endless day.

NOVEMBER 4.

If any man hear My voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and sup with him, and he with Me.

REV. iii. 20.

Knocking, knocking, who is there?
Waiting, waiting, oh, how fair!
'Tis a pilgrim, strange and kingly,
Never such was seen before.
Wilt thou not undo the door?

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 5.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of Me; and ye shall find rest for your souls.—MATT. xi. 29.

Come, every soul by sin oppressed,
There's mercy with the Lord,
And He will surely give you rest,
By trusting in His word.

NOVEMBER 6.

Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season.—JOB v. 26.

When age advances, may we grow
In faith, and hope, and love;
And walk in holiness below,
To holiness above.

NOVEMBER 7.

Every believer is near God in affection; yet he is still infinite removes from His perfection.—CARYL.

Sweet affections flow from hence,
Sweet above the joys of sense;
Let me thus for ever be,
Full of gladness, full of Thee,
Although perfection like to Thine
May never yet on earth be mine.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 8.

He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.—Ps. cxii. 7.

My heart is resting, O my God,
  My heart is in Thy care:
I hear the voice of joy and health
  Resounding everywhere.

NOVEMBER 9.

Thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of woman.—2 Sam. i. 26.

O Love divine, how sweet Thou art!
When shall I find my willing heart
  All taken up by Thee?
I thirst, I faint, and die to prove
The greatness of redeeming love,
  The love of Christ to me.

NOVEMBER 10.

He will cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust.—Ps. xci. 4.

As a bird beneath her feathers
  Guards the object of her care,
So the Lord His children gathers,
  Spreads His wings and hides them there.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 11.

Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the Lord; and I will heal him.

ISA. lvii. 19.

See through Him your sins forgiven,
Pardon, holiness, and heaven;
Glorify the King of kings,
Take the peace the Gospel brings.

NOVEMBER 12.

Oneness with Jesus will set us free from any desire for oneness with the world.—P. B. POWER.

Closer and closer let us cleave
To His beloved embrace;
Expect His fulness to receive,
And grace to follow grace.

NOVEMBER 13.

Thy beauty was perfect through My comeliness, which I put upon thee, saith the Lord.

EZEK. xvi. 14.

O wondrous thought! imperfect man
To grow in beauty like his King!
Your voices raise with one accord,
And shout His name and praises sing.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 14.

I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears; behold, I will heal thee.—2 KINGS xx. 5.

Let not sorrow dim your eye,
Soon shall every tear be dry;
Let not fears your course impede,
Great your strength, if great your need.

NOVEMBER 15.

It shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.
ISA. lxv. 24.

Bow Thine ear, in mercy bow,
  Hear, the world's atonement Thou!
Jesus, in Thy name we pray,
  Take, O take our sins away!

NOVEMBER 16.

It is being truly sanctified in all holiness, to have none of our own, but only the holiness of Jesus Christ.
MADAME GUYON.

Lord, be it mine, like Thine elect, to choose
The better part; like them to use
  The means Thy love hath given;
Be holiness my aim on earth;
That death be welcomed as a birth
  To life and bliss in heaven.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 17.

Unto them that look for Him shall He appear again the second time, without sin unto salvation.

HEB. ix. 28.

No more heart pangs and sadness,
All peace and joy and gladness;
All doubts and fears will vanish,
All gloom His face will banish,
When Jesus comes.

NOVEMBER 18.

Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.—REV. xix. 9.

For still a higher seat
We in Thy kingdom claim,
And here begin by faith to eat
The supper of the Lamb.

NOVEMBER 19.

I, the Lord, will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.—ISA. xli. 13.

Fear not, O little flock, the foe
Who madly seeks your overthrow:
What though your courage sometimes faints,
His seeming triumphs o'er God's saints
Last but a little hour.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 20.

Peace be both to thee, and peace be to thine house, and peace be unto all that thou hast.—1 SAM. XXV. 6.

'Peace' was the word our Saviour breathed,
When from our world His steps withdrew:
The gift He to His friends bequeathed,
With Calvary and the Cross in view.

NOVEMBER 21.

God, our Father. It is a name of indulgence, a name of hope, a name of provision, a name of protection.—RICHARD SIBBS.

Father, loving Father,
Tossed on life's rough sea,
Oft Thy child has called Thee,
Now call Thy child to Thee.

NOVEMBER 22.

Shall not God be as much present with His creatures as one creature can be with another?—CHARNOCK.

Holy Saviour! Friend unseen!
Since on Thy arm Thou bidst us lean,
Help us throughout life's changing scene
To cling to Thee!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 23.

If you have not learned submission at the foot of the Cross, wherefore did you come?—BOSSUET.

Never further than Thy cross;
Never higher than Thy feet;
Here earth's precious things seem dross;
Here earth's bitter things grow sweet.

NOVEMBER 24.

God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.—PHIL. iv. 19.

Ten thousand thousand precious gifts
My daily thanks employ:
Nor is the least a cheerful heart
That tastes those gifts with joy.

NOVEMBER 25.

The God of peace make you perfect in every good work to do His will.—HEB. xiii. 20, 21.

All His work He shall fulfil,
All the good pleasure of His will,
Keeping thee in all thy ways,
And with thee always, 'all the days.'

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 26.

To seek the face of the Lord is to seek that which will gladden us all through life.—CONSOLING TRUTHS.

Early, my God, without delay,
I haste to seek Thy face;
My thirsty spirit faints away
Without Thy cheering grace.

NOVEMBER 27.

Be strong, and of good courage, fear not; for the Lord thy God, He it is that doth go with thee.

DEUT. xxxi. 6.

Now let my soul arise,
And tread the tempter down;
My Captain leads me forth
To conquest and a crown.

NOVEMBER 28.

If thou prepare thine heart, and stretch out thine hands towards Him; thou shalt forget thy misery.

JOB xi. 13, 16.

When the troubled, seeking peace,
On Thy name shall call;
When the sinner, seeking life,
At Thy feet shall fall:
Hear then, in love, O Lord, the cry,
In heaven, Thy dwelling-place on high.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

NOVEMBER 29.

Surely God, so loving under the law, is no less gracious in the Gospel: our souls are well secured. No fear then of harm.—THOMAS FULLER.

O keep me, keep me near Thy seat,
It is my only safe retreat;
And let me, whilst my moments flee,
Enjoy the life that's hid with Thee.

NOVEMBER 30.

What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? . . . O that Thou wouldest bless me indeed!

MARK x. 51; 1 CHRON. iv. 10.

Lord, I hear of showers of blessing
Thou art scattering full and free;
Showers the thirsty soul refreshing;
Let some blessings fall on me.

DECEMBER 1.

Our life must be given to God, as well as our heart; it is not giving too much to give Him both.—FENELON.

My life I bring to Thee,
I would not be my own;
O Saviour, let me be
Thine ever, Thine alone.
My heart, my life, my all I bring
To Thee, my Saviour and my King.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 2.

Wherefore dealest Thou thus with Thy servants? . . . That your faith and hope might be in God.

EX. v. 15; 1 PET. i. 21.

My God, my everlasting hope,
I live upon Thy truth;
Thine hands have held my childhood up,
And strengthened all my youth.

DECEMBER 3.

Is anything too hard for Thee, Lord? . . . With God nothing shall be impossible.

GEN. xviii. 14; LUKE i. 37.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.

DECEMBER 4.

Rest! how sweet the sound! It is melody to my ears! It lies as a reviving cordial at my heart.

BAXTER.

Rest remaineth: hush that sigh!
Mourning pilgrim, rest is nigh!
Yet a season, bright and blest,
Thou shalt enter on thy rest!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 5.

God is love; and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God, and God in him.—1 JOHN iv. 16.

O love divine and golden!
  Mysterious depth and height!
To thee the world beholden,
  Looks up for life and light.

DECEMBER 6.

What, indeed, is prayer but love—love with a want, *and which asks of God the source of all good.*

EUGENIE DE GUERIN.

Eternal God, we look to Thee;
  To Thee for help we fly:
Thine eye alone our wants can see;
  Thy hand alone supply.

DECEMBER 7.

Whither wilt thou go? . . . I will arise and go to my Father.—GEN. xvi. 8; LUKE xv. 18.

Just as I am—poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need in Thee to find,
  O Lamb of God, I come.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 8.

Whom should I serve? . . . Know thou the God of thy father, and serve Him with a perfect heart.

2 SAM. xvi. 19; 1 CHRON. xxviii. 9.

Though in the world, not to the world to live,
But to my God my service wholly give:
Joy in His grace, and live but in His love,
And seek my bliss but in the heaven above.

DECEMBER 9.

I will sing of Thy power; yea, I will sing aloud of Thy mercy in the morning.—Ps. lix. 16.

Sing, my tongue, the Saviour's glory,
Of His cross the mystery sing;
Lift on high the wondrous trophy,
Tell the triumph of the King.

DECEMBER 10.

If I want real pleasure, I seek the happiness that comes from God, that alone is lasting.

MADAME SWETCHINE.

Our pleasures rise from things unseen,
Beyond this world and time;
Where neither eyes nor ears have been,
Nor thoughts of sinners climb.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 11.

The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.—PROV. xviii. 10.

A safe retreat in time of need,
Our God securely stands;
A tower of strength, where we can hide
From darts and fiery brands.

DECEMBER 12.

Let my mouth be filled with Thy praise and with Thy honour all the day.—Ps. lxxi. 8.

My God, I will address Thee
In loudest hymns of praise;
Then, too, my soul shall bless Thee,
When mute in deep amaze.

DECEMBER 13.

Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
ROM. xii. 1.

Now from the altar of our hearts
Let incense flames arise;
Assist us, Lord, to offer up
Ourselves a sacrifice.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 14.

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward.—HEB. x. 35.

Howe'er mysterious are His ways,
Or dark and sorrowful our days;
And though our spirits oft rebel,
We know He still does all things well.

DECEMBER 15.

Father, I am happy. I long to thank Thee for my happiness, for Thou hast given it me, O Thou great, ineffable God!—PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS.

O happy day, that fixed my choice
On Thee, my Saviour and my God!
Well may this glowing heart rejoice,
And tell its raptures all abroad.

DECEMBER 16.

If we seek the Lord in reality, it will not be in vain: daily blessings will be scattered on our path.

CONSOLING TRUTHS.

Lord, we come before Thee now,
At Thy feet we humbly bow:
O do not Thou our suit disdain!
Shall we seek Thee, Lord, in vain?

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 17.

Hast Thou not reserved a blessing for me? . . . He will love thee, and bless thee.

GEN. xxvii. 36: DEUT. vii. 13.

Thy parting blessing, Lord, we pray;
Make but one fold below, above;
And when we go the last lone way,
O give the welcome of Thy love.

DECEMBER 18.

Trust in God's promise to give Himself to us, and in order to remind Him, ask only Himself from Him.

BOURDALOUE.

Thus far we prove that promise good,
Which Jesus ratified with blood:
Still is He gracious, wise, and just,
And still in him believers trust.

DECEMbER 19.

O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in Him.—Ps. xxxiv. 8.

Thou of life the fountain art,
Freely let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart,
Rise to all eternity.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 20.

Who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?—1 PET. iii. 13.

To God on high be thanks and praise,
Who deigns our bonds to sever;
His cares our drooping souls upraise,
And harm shall reach us never.

DECEMBER 21.

Thou hast dealt well with Thy servant, O Lord, according unto Thy word.—PS. cxix. 65.

Amidst a thousand snares I stand,
Upheld and guarded by Thy hand;
Thy words my fainting soul revive,
And keep my dying faith alive.

DECEMBER 22.

What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee; and what is thy request?—ESTH. v. 6.

Give me a calm and thankful heart,
From every murmur free:
The blessings of Thy grace impart,
And let me live to Thee.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 23.

If we are unable to submit to God and find consolation in trouble, we are not submissive and gentle.

MASSILLON.

Christ had His sorrows—so must thou,
If thou wiit tread the path He trod—
O then, like Him, submissive bow,
And own the sovereignty of God.

DECEMBER 24.

Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord; whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.—PS. i. 1, 2, 3.

The law of God is his delight;
That cloud by day, that fire by night.
His works shall prosper; he shall be
A fruitful, fair, unwithering tree.

DECEMBER 25.

Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.—LUKE ii. 10.

Christ is born, the Great Anointed,
Heaven and earth His praises sing;
O receive whom God appointed,
For your Prophet, Priest, and King!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 26.

Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the Tree of Life.

REV. xxii. 14.

What is the first and great command?
To love thy God above:
And what the second? As thyself
Thy neighbour thou shalt love.

DECEMBER 27.

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.—PROV. iv. 23.

Wash, Lord, and purify my heart,
And make it clean in every part;
And when 'tis clean, Lord, keep it too,
For that is more than I can do.

DECEMBER 28.

Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask Him.—MATT. vi. 8.

Thou knowest all my wants, dear God,—
The joys I crave, the love I need,
And with a liberal hand dost give
Abundant food my soul to feed.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

DECEMBER 29.

Be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God hath forgiven you.

EPH. iv. 32.

Oh! never let us lightly fling
The barb of woe to wound another;
Oh! let us never haste to bring
The cup of sorrow to a brother.

DECEMBER 30.

O Lord: let them that love Him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might.—JUDG. v. 31.

God is our sun and shield,
Our light and our defence;
With gifts His hands are filled;
We draw our blessings thence.

DECEMBER 31.

Watchman, what of the night? The night is far spent, the day is at hand.—ISA. xxi. 11; ROM. xiii. 12.

Watchman! tell us of the night;
For the morning seems to dawn.
Traveller! darkness takes its flight;
Doubt and terror are withdrawn;
Traveller! lo, the Prince of Peace,
Lo, the Son of God is come!

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Index of Names.

NAMES.	PAGE.

Digitized by Google

NAMES.	PAGE.

Digitized by Google

NAMES.	PAGE.

Digitized by Google

NAMES.	PAGE.

Digitized by Google

NAMES.	PAGE.

Digitized by Google

NAMES.	PAGE.

Digitized by Google

NAMES.	PAGE.

Digitized by Google

NIMMO'S
BIRTHDAY BOOKS.

Elegantly printed, and interleaved so as to form a Diary for the entry of Birthdays, etc., etc.

19th Thousand.

CUPID'S BIRTHDAY BOOK: One Thousand Quotations from Shakespeare, Gathered and Arranged for Every Day in the Year. In crown 32mo, limp cloth, 2s.; gilt edges, 2s. 6d.; and in imitation ivory binding, chaste design, 4s. 6d.

19th Thousand.

THE BIRTHDAY BOOK OF PROVERBS: Consisting of a Serious, Satirical, or Humorous Sentence, Proverb, and Verse of Poetry for Every Day in the Year. In crown 32mo, cloth limp, 2s.; gilt edges, 2s. 6d.; and in imitation ivory binding, chaste design, 4s. 6d.

7th Thousand.

AULD ACQUAINTANCE: A Birthday Book of the Wise and Tender Words of Robert Burns. Compiled by JAMES B. BEGG, a Grand-nephew of the Poet. In crown 32mo, limp cloth, 2s.; gilt edges, 2s. 6d.; and in imitation ivory, chaste design, 4s. 6d.

THE HOUSEHOLD BIRTHDAY BOOK AND MARRIAGE AND OBITUARY REGISTER. With the dates of Births, Marriages, and Deaths of over One Thousand Eminent Men and Women. In crown 32mo, limp cloth, 2s., or in cloth extra, 2s. 6d.; and in imitation ivory, chaste design, 4s. 6d.

Digitized by Google

THE LITTLE FOLK'S BIRTHDAY BOOK; or, Something Good about Children, Child-Life, Flowers, etc., for Every Day in the Year. In fcap. 8vo, cloth limp, 2s.; gilt edges, 2s. 6d.

25th Thousand.

BIBLE WORDS FOR BIRTHDAYS. In fcap. 16mo, cloth extra, red edges, 1s., gilt edges, 1s. 6d.; in calf limp, 3s. 6d., and in imitation ivory and rims, 3s. 6d.

13th Thousand.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS for Every Day in the Year. In fcap. 16mo, cloth extra, red edges, 1s.; gilt edges, 1s. 6d.; and in imitation ivory and rims, 3s. 6d.

13th Thousand.

THE BIRTHDAY BOOK OF WIT & HUMOUR for Every Day in the Year. In fcap. 16mo, cloth extra, red edges, 1s.; gilt edges, 1s. 6d.; and in imitation ivory and rims, 3s. 6d.

7th Thousand.

THE BIRTHDAY ORACLE; or, WHOM SHALL I MARRY? Arranged for Every Day in the Year. In fcap. 16mo, cloth extra, red edges, 1s.; gilt edges, 1s. 6d.; and in imitation ivory and rims, 3s. 6d.

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google

Digitized by Google